RNA

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

c/o Vito Brunetti — 232 Ogden Avenue — Jersey City, N.J. 07307 — (201) 798-0493

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CHRISTMAS ISSUE

DECEMBER 1984

RNA HAS 3rd MEETING IN HARBOR VIEW HEALTH CENTER: ELECTIONS SLATED FOR JANUARY 8th MEETING

The third meeting of the RNA was held in the cafeteria of the Harbor View Health Care Center. The atmosphere was lovely.The spotlessly clean and gleaming cafeteria is done in muted colors with lavender predominating and potted plants all around. Coffee and cookies were generously provided by the staff of the center.

The meeting was opened by temporary chairman Vito Brunetti, who introduced Natalie Zanetich, the Health Care Center's Administrator. Ms. Zanetich, who has been extremely hospitable and cooperative, addressed the group, welcoming us and telling us all about the facility, the services offered, the functions it performs and the staff. It appears to be a top-notch facility run in an ethical and professional manner. The RNA will continue to meet in the center the second Tuesday of each month. Rooms are also available for smaller meetings and parties.

Ed Lortz took the floor next and explained that elections will be held for permanent officers of the RNA. Nominations were opened and will be kept open until the next meeting, at which time the membership will vote. The nominees thus far are: Chairperson: VITO BRUNETTI and ANNE HART; Vice-chairperson: BOB LEWIS and TED CONRAD; Secretary: MARIE (DEE) IPSARO and RAQUEL SWEENY; Treasurer: RUTH CONRAD and LIZ MURRAY. Members were advised to consider these nominees and be ready to nominate additional people (or themselves) at the next meeting.

Vito took the chair again and announced committee reports under the heading of "old business". Edith Springer reported for the Community Awareness group. This group is in charge of publishing this newsletter. It contains articles about the neighborhood and people and events of concern and interest. The committee hopes that members will give feedback as to what they like or don't like in the format, style and content of this newsletter. The committee also made a proposal for a New Year.s Day gathering to celebrate the birth of the RNA. Natalie Zanetich, Administrator of the Harbor View Health Care Center, offered us the use of the Solarium on the second floor for the party. The members overwhelmingly agreed to the party. Members are asked to bring food or drink. The party will start at 7:30 p.m. and continue until 11:30 p.m. The Crime Committee report was by Dean Howell. He described the committee's work at the monthly police precinct meeting wherein Captain Maglione promised foot patrols and more police visibility in Riverview Park. According to Dean, who lives across the street from the park in the old Burke building, the captain has made good on his promise. In response to the committee's many questions and concerns, Captain Maglione described what his priorities are (violent crime) and revealed that there is a shortage of patrolmen in our district. However, the committee will continue pressing for more police service. The Sanitation committee report was by Anne Hart, who handed out a list of vital phone numbers of the Sanitation, Public Works, Property Conservation, Streets and Sewers and Forestry Departments, to name a few. Now our members can have a handy reference for reporting broken street lights, heat and hot water problems, street cleaning needs, etc. There is also a number to call for a free dumpster when you are doing renovation or cleaning.

The Traffic Committee, headed by Michael Cioffi, announced the time and place of its next meeting to further develop the plans to change the flow of traffic on Ogden Avenue.

Bob Lewis, temporary Vice-chairman, took the floor and entertained "New Business". Several members, led by Pat Lambert, noted that at least 9 fire hydrants on Ogden and Palisade Avenues are broken. Chairman Vito Brunetti vowed to call Councilman Tom Hart to press for immediate action. A discussion was held about how to prevent hydrants from being broken in the future. Anne Hart had information regarding how to get a spray cap and supervise children who want to get cool in the summer without breaking the fire hydrants which are extremely important and must be in working order all the time. The Crime Committee was asked to follow up on this issue and include it in their agenda.

People reported abandoned cars and were urged to repeatedly telephone the police and report them, asking to speak to the captain personally if there's no response. Puddles, potholes, blight studies, zoning, further development plans ("Riverview Arts District") were all issues that were brought up and discussed. Ruth Conrad showed the group 5 legal notices in the local newspapers regarding variances requested of the Planning Board for development in our neighborhood. People were urged to attend the next two meetings of the Planning Board to voice their opinions, including opposition, to some of the development schemes, as well as to become better informed on what those schemes are. Ed Lortz activated a Zoning and Development Committee to meet the night before the Planning Board Meeting which took place on December 19th to plan for the meeting wherein several properties in our area were discussed and may come up for variances.

The Parks Committee announced that it is seeking members because it is only a committee of three people (Ted Conrad, Raquel Sweeny and Lynda Grose who is temporarily out of the country). Interested people should contact Raquel (656-5744).

Dean Howell suggested that we think about forming a "Help Group" to lend a hand when neighbors are doing a major job on their house or property. This will be discussed further at future meetings.

The meeting ended with a reminder that the next meeting will be Tuesday, January 8th at the Harbor View Health Care Center's cafeteria, at 7:00 p.m. and the New Year's Day Party will be January 1st (Tuesday) at 7:30 p.m. at the Solarium (second floor). Please bring finger food, drinks and yourselves.

CRIME COMMITTEE URGES INCREASED POLICE VISIBILITY

By: Liz Murray

The first meeting of the Committee on crime met on October 19th and found the major concern to be crime in Riverview Park and police service and response. Many of our local problems are interrelated as shown by these four points which emerged at this lively meeting: Riverview Park, thefts, break-ins, drugs and police service. The Park's problems centered around drug-dealing, loitering and the non-enforced "pooper-scooper" laws making this area both dangerous and unsightly. Committee members contacted the local police department requesting foot patrols in the park and received assurance of more visibility of police and hopefully undercover personnel for the narcotic problem.

The seven members at the committee meeting listed about 25 questions and problems which will serve as a guide for the committee itself as well as a departure point for dealings with local officials. The members at the crime committee meeting were:
Will Hart, Ed Hallowell, Dean Howell, Walter Kosky, Richard Maluta, Henry Saminski, Karen Saminski.

The Di Blasi property at 236 Ogden Avenue between Franklin and Griffith Streets has been sold. The property includes a large commercial parking garage and two houses. Neighbors on both sides are curious to find out what the new owner's plans are for that 4-lot site. And good luck to the Di Blasis in their new home.

NEIGHBORHOOD TALK

Edith Springer, who is a Social Worker at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, has been admitted to the Academy of Certified Social Workers, a national honorary organization of Social Workers who have achieved the highest standards of practice in the profession. In order to be admitted to the ACSW, Edith had to submit several references and pass a rigorous four-hour examination.

Joe Mizzi is nearing completion on hi beautiful home which is perched lik aerie on Mountain Road near the corne of Franklin Street. There were som delays due to construction problem but Joe is finally close to moving in The house is large and airy with natura colors of wood, white and brown. I has large windows to allow the maxi mum view and exquisite tiles on th floors and in the batchroom which i enormous. We wish the Mizzis gooc luck and happiness in that lovely home

OGDEN AVENUE SPEEDWAY?

By: David Sweeny

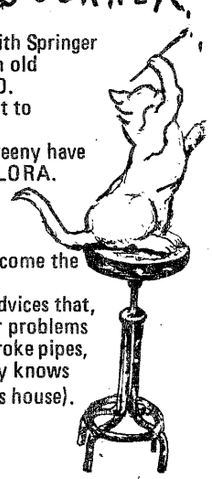
Due to the closing of Mountain Road and Holland Ave., there has been serious increase of traffic along Ogden Ave. Residents have been complaining that outsiders bound for Hoboken and New York have been using Ogden Ave. to avoid six traffic lights on Palisade Ave. (These drivers usually go at a higher speed than that specified: 25 mph). The traffic Committee has been working hard with Councilman Hart and the Jersey City Traffic Authority on a plan to change the direction of traffic on Ogden Avenue, between Riverview Park and Cuneo Place which will prevent this abuse. This topic will be discussed at future block association meetings and your comments will be appreciated.

NEWS
PERSONAL ITEMS
AND
EDITORIALS
ARE NEEDED.

PLEASE SEND
YOUR
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE RNA
COMMUNITY
AWARENESS
COMMITTEE
(c/o Edith Springer
234 Ogden Avenue
J.City, N.J. 07307
OR CALL
798-0493

JOIN THE
COMMITTEE!!

PET'S CORNER



Vito Brunetti and Edith Springer have a new dog, a ten-month old Yellow Labrador named JED. Let's hope he will be an asset to Ogden Ave.

Raquel and David Sweeny have a new pet. A parrot named LORA. A green, red and yellow chatterbox. She has joined the Community Awareness Committee and may become the chairperson.

By the way, LORA advices that, if you ever have home repair problems never call V.B. (He already broke pipes, a sink, a toilet, and God only knows how many other things in his house).

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
AND REMEMBER THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE PROVIDED SERVICES FOR YOU DURING THE ENTIRE YEAR:
MAILMAN, PAPER CARRIERS, GARBAGE COLLECTORS, ETC.